

~~DRAFT~~**PATENT**  
**IBM Docket No. GB9-2000-0082US1****REMARKS****Status:**

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 11-12, 15, 18-21, 23-27, 30 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the teaching of the Aho reference. Claims 1, 6-9, 12, 24, 27, 32-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the teaching of US Pat. No. 6,378,126 (hereinafter Tang). Claims 2-3, 5, 13-14, 16-17, 28-29 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the teaching of the Aho reference considered in view of US Pat. No. 5,325,531 (hereinafter McKeeman).

A timely reply has been submitted to the most recent Office Action.

This draft for a Supplemental Reply is submitted in response to a telephone call by the Examiner to Applicant's attorney; wherein, the Examiner raised issues with claims 12, 24 and 27, indicating a need for clarifications to avoid non-statutory subject matter concerns.

Claims 1-37 as amended by this draft are presented for reconsideration as is explained in the analysis that follows.

**Analysis:**

Language is added to clarify the nature of the claimed subject matter in claims 12, 24 and 27 as well as claims dependent thereon. The term "memory device" now used in

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claim 27 is supported in the second paragraph of Applicant's "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS" which describes, at some length, use of volatile and non-volatile memory devices.

This draft amendment is believed to address the concerns raised by the Examiner and entry thereof is solicited to advance the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
George E. Grosser

Reg. No. 25,629

c/o IBM Corp.  
Dept. T81/Bldg. 503 PO Box 12195  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Tel. No.(919)968-7847 Fax 919-254-4330  
EMAIL: gegch@prodigy.net